



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Underground fuel release at Midway Atoll:

03/21/2003 Update

- As of March 20, approximately 37,250 gallons of JP-5 fuel have been recovered.
- The barge bringing new equipment and supplies from Honolulu to Midway arrived on Sunday, March 16 and was unloaded on Monday.



- After a once-over by the GeoEngineers mechanic, FWS volunteers went to work scrubbing the equipment to remove the oily coating sprayed on for salt water protection en route to Midway.



- By 2 p.m. Monday afternoon, the equipment was in use by the remediation workers.
- Installation of eight product recovery wells was completed. These wells are 12.5-13.5 feet below ground level. Pea gravel is packed around the wells to allow space for the fuel to leach into the extraction wells while keeping coral sands from blocking their perforated surfaces.
- Unused test pits were refilled with clean sand.
- Trenching and conduit installation for the electrical distribution system that will operate the recovery wells was completed.
- Monitoring well observations indicate the plume is stable. Analytical results from lagoon water sampling show no detectable concentrations of hydrocarbons.
- **Next steps:**
 - Install the pumps, controllers, compressor, and electrical systems necessary to fully automate the well operations.
 - Develop and construct the recycling system for the recovered fuel.